
March 6, 2014

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Expression of Interest Letter – WC Docket 10-90, Connect America Fund

Dear Ms. Dortch,

This letter is submitted to express interest in participating in the Rural Broadband Experiments. Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative is an incumbent local exchange carrier (“ILEC”) providing voice and broadband services to rural consumers for over 56 years in rural Iowa with an average density of 2.54 customers per square mile. This track record proves that Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative has the experience and dedication to rural consumers needed to successfully deploy broadband in unserved areas.

Broadband networks, particularly high-speed broadband networks, are expensive to build and cost recovery typically requires multiple years in rural high-cost areas and Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative is very interested in partnering with the FCC to conduct experiments to find creative ways of deploying high-speed, scalable, IP-based networks in rural high-cost areas. In particular, Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative recognizes the need for service to be available to local schools, hospitals and other anchor institutions to ensure rural economic development and opportunity for all Americans. To that end, Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative will take all steps to ensure our experiments maximize accessibility for all anchor institutions in the proposed areas. The details of our potential experiment may be found below.

Location of Potential Experiments

Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative is interested in providing service to eligible locations within the Census Tracts of the Iowa counties listed below. The information is according to the FCC’s release of potentially eligible Tracts. Since the information does not identify specific locations in the Tracts, we are unable to note the exact number of anchor institutions that would benefit from the experiment, as noted below.

County	Census Tract Number	Number of Locations	Number of Anchor Institutions
Grundy	19075960300	27	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.
Grundy	19075960400	45	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.
Hardin	19083480100	42	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.
Marshall	19127950100	39	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.
Marshall	19127950300	53	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.
Marshall	19127950400	34	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.
Tama	19171290300	123	Unknown – Specific location detail needed.

Broadband Technology

Based on the funding level available, Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative would use fiber to the home to deploy broadband capable network in all of the census tracts.

Service Offerings

The IP Network described above would be capable of supporting voice, high-speed broadband of at least 4Mbps downstream and 1Mbps upstream up to 30Mbps downstream *or higher if needed*/15Mbps upstream *or higher if needed* as well as IPTV. Anchor institutions would be able to receive broadband at these speed offerings as well. The exact prices of these services still need to be determined, however, they will likely be similar to Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative's current offerings to our existing customers.

Necessary Funding

Without more specifics on the exact unserved high-cost locations in the census tracts listed above, Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative is unable to provide an estimate of what this experiment will cost to construct the required facilities. Once this information becomes available, Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative would be able to provide an estimate of construction costs.

Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative thanks the FCC for the opportunity to participate in this process. Any questions about this letter of interest should be directed to me at the contact information located on page one.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Amundson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bryan" and last name "Amundson" clearly distinguishable.

Bryan Amundson
Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative